

Message Text

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SUBJECT: JULY 27 NIHON KEIZAI REPORTS ON FISHERIES ISSUES

1. PAGE-THREE REPORT IN THE NIHON KEIZAI, WITH THE CAPTIONS:
"CANNOT REMAIN OPTIMISTIC ABOUT JAPAN-US FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS
NEXT MONTH; LDP MISSION LEADER'S STATEMENT AFTER RETURNING FROM
US," SAID:

TAKEO OKUBO (LOWER HOUSE MEMBE), LEADER OF THE JOINT MISSION
OF THE LDP LAW OF THE SEA DIET MEMBERS LEAGUE AND THE LDP FISHERIES
DEPARTMENT, WHICH VISITED THE UNITED STATES RECENTLY IN ADVANCE OF
THE OPENING OF THE JAPAN-US FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS, HELD A PRESS
CONFERENCE AT THE AGRICULTURE-FORESTRY MINISTRY ON THE AFTERNOON OF
THE 26TH AND MADE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT. "THE US SIDE HAS THE
UNDERSTANDING THAT THE COMING JAPAN-US FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS ARE
AN EXTREMELY IMPORTANT PROBLEM BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES,
AND THE SITUATION ADMITS OF NO OPTIMISM OVER THE SAID NEGOTIATIONS.
ON THE OTHER HAND, THE US SIDE SEEMS TO HAVE A VERY STRONG FEELING
THAT IT DOES NOT WANT TO IMPAIR FRIENDLY RELATIONS THEREBY."

MISSION LEADER OKUBO AND OTHERS HELD TALKS WITH SECRETARY
OF COMMERCE RICHARDSON, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE IRVING, AND
THE REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATORS CONCERNED WITH FISHERIES ON THE
21ST AND THE 22ND. WITH THE AUGUST JAPAN-US FISHERIES NEGOTIA-
TIONS CLOSE AT HAND, THEY APPEARED CONCERNED CONCERNING THE SITUATION OF
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THE TROUBLED FISHERIES CIRCLES OF OUR COUNTRY AND RETURNED HOME

TOWARD THE END OF LAST WEEK.

THE LDP WILL HOLD A JOINT MEETING OF ITS POLICY BOARD, FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, FOREIGN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, ETC., ON THE 27TH, AND AFTER HEARING REPORTS FROM THE JOINT MISSION, WILL DISCUSS FUTURE TACKLING OF JAPAN-US FISHERIES NEGOTIATION.

2. THE NIHON KEIZAI, ON PAGE THREE ALSO NOTED THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL-JAPAN SEAMEN'S UNION WILL VISIT THE UNITED STATES TO SEEK UNDERSTANDING ON THE FISHERIES PROBLEM. THE REPORT SAID:

THE ALL-JAPAN SEAMEN'S UNION (CHAIRMAN: YUKIJI MURAKAMI) WILL DISPATCH ITS REPRESENTATIVES TO THE UNITED STATES ON THE 28TH ON THE GROUND THAT IF THE UNITED STATES' 200-NAUTICAL-MILE EXCLUSIVE FISHING ZONE ACT IS PUT INTO FORCE FROM NEXT MARCH, EMPLOYMENT OF THE CREW MEMBERS OF FISHING VESSELS IN THE NORTHERN WATERS WILL FACE A SERIOUS CRISIS. THE REPRESENTATIVES WILL MEET THE PERSONS CONCERNED, CENTERING ON THE NORTH AMERICA INTERNATIONAL SEAMEN'S UNION, AND REQUEST SUPPORT AND CO-OPERATION ON THE EMPLOYMENT PROBLEM OF THE FISHERIES WORKERS OF OUR COUNTRY. CONCRETELY, THEY WILL REQUEST THAT THE ACTUAL RESULTS OF FISH CATCH HITHERTO ATTAINED BY OUR COUNTRY BE RECOGNIZED. THEY INTEND TO AVOID THE WORST SITUATION WHERE THE NUMBER OF VESSELS WILL BE REDUCED AND CREW MEMBERS WILL BE DISMISSED DUE TO LARGE-SCALE REDUCTION IN THE AMOUNT OF FISH CATCH.

THREE PERSONS ARE TO LEAVE FOR THE UNITED STATES -- JAPAN SEAMEN'S UNION VICE-CHAIRMAN KAZUKIYO DOI, CENTRAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER TOSHIO FUTAMI, AND TSUKIJI BRANCH CHIEF SHINJI OSAWA. THEY WILL STAY IN WASHINGTON FROM THE 28TH THROUGH AUGUST 4 AND WILL HOLD TALKS WITH NORTH AMERICA INTERNATIONAL SEAMEN'S UNION CHAIRMAN PAUL HALL, GOVERNMENT PERSONS CONCERNED, AND INFLUENTIAL MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS. THEY EXPECT TO APPEAL ON THE EFFECTS OF THE EXCLUSIVE FISHING ZONE ACT. AFTER THAT, THEY WILL VISIT BOSTON, SEATTLE, JUNEAU, ETC., AND WILL RETURN HOME ON AUGUST 12.

THE ALL-JAPAN SEAMEN'S UNION HAS, AT PRESENT, A MEMBERSHIP OF 150,000. OF THESE, ABOUT 60,000 ARE MEMBERS CONCERNED WITH FISHING VESSELS. IF THE UNITED STATES TOTALLY SHUTS OUR COUNTRY

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OUT OF THE 20-NAUTICAL-MILE ZONES, 35,000 TO 38,000 MEMBERS, OF THE ABOVE-MENTIONED 60,000, WILL LOSE THEIR JOBS AND WILL THUS BE SERIOUSLY AFFECTED. FOR THIS REASON, THE UNION HAS DECIDED TO DISPATCH ITS REPRESENTATIVES TO THE UNITED STATES THIS TIME. THE UNION INTENDS TO DISPATCH ITS REPRESENTATIVES NOT ONLY TO THE UNITED STATES BUT TO THE SOVIET UNION AS WELL AND APPEAL FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF THE STATUS QUO AS TO THE AMOUNT OF FISH CATCH IN THE FUTURE.

3. IN ITS SECOND EDITORIAL TITLED "SIGNIFICANCE OF FISHERY
DELEGATION'S VISIT TO US," NIHON KEIZAI SAID THAT THE COMING
MONTHS OF AUGUST IS THE MOST IMPORTANT PERIOD IN THE HISTORY OF
JAPAN'S PELAGIC FISHERIES, POINTING OUT THAT THE UN CONFERENCE
ON THE LAW OF THE SEA AND THE JAPAN-US FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS ARE
TO BE STARTED IN AUGUST. THE PAPER SAID WH JAPAN'S PELAGIC
FISHERIES MAY BE EXPOSED TO THE DANGER OF TOTAL EXTINCTION,
DEPENDING ON THE PROGRESS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS OR THE OPERATION
OF THE US LAW WHICH HAS ESTABLISHED 200-NAUTICAL MILE FISHERY
ZONES. THE PAPER HOPED THAT THE JAPANESE FISHERY DELEGATION,
WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO VISIT THE US SOON WILL ASK THE US SIDE
TO ENFORCE THE NEW LAW CAREFULLY.
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